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Letter dated 26 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Osman Ertuğ, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 54, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) İnal BATU
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 26 October 1993 from Mr. Osman Ertuğ
to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to a letter addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative on 24 September 1993, which was circulated under the symbol A/48/458-S/26506 on 30 September 1993.

This letter concerns the demographic structure of Cyprus, a subject which the Greek Cypriot administration has been persistently exploiting, notwithstanding the fact that it is the Greek Cypriot side itself which, in collaboration with Greece, has long been trying to alter the demographic structure of the island in favour of the Greek side.

As part of their campaign to do so, a total of 10,350 mainland Greeks had been settled in the island as early as the Second World War, as documented by the records of the then British Colonial Office (document No. C.O.67.328).

Following the Greek Cypriot onslaught on the Turkish Cypriot community in 1963, as many as 20,000 mainland Greek troops were brought to the island clandestinely, in order to materialize the annexation of the island to Greece (ENOSIS). This has been admitted by high Greek officials.

Ample evidence also exists in the reports of the United Nations Secretaries-General to the Security Council (for example, reports S/5950 of 10 September 1964 and S/8286 of 8 December 1967) pertaining to the illegal importation of Greek mainland troops and their being given "legal status" in order to resettle them in the island on a permanent basis.

While this was being done, a parallel process of evicting the Turkish Cypriots from their ancestral homeland was put into effect, resulting in the forced emigration of thousands of Turkish Cypriots to other countries. Furthermore, Turkish Cypriots born after 1960 were not registered, in order to lower the growth rate of the Turkish Cypriot population.

In the conditions of security and opportunity established after 1974 in Northern Cyprus, many Turkish Cypriots, who were forced by the Greek Cypriot administration to emigrate, have opted to return to their homeland. As a result of the demand created by a newly reactivated, growing economy, a number of workers also came from other countries, mostly from Turkey because of its proximity and cultural affinity. A number of these people who fulfilled the requirements of citizenship either by marriage or five years of residence, or by virtue of having been born on the island, have been granted citizenship. Their number, however, is nowhere near what the Greek Cypriot administration claims, since our economy would not be able to withstand such an influx in such a short time. Greek Cypriot allegations in this regard, therefore, defy even the basic norms of logic.

It will be appreciated that this practice, in any event, falls totally within the sovereignty, competence and jurisdiction of the government authorities of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. The Greek Cypriot

administration authorities clearly have no say or jurisdiction over this matter. It should also be noted that the Greek Cypriot administration, whose competence and jurisdiction extend only over Southern Cyprus, has, in recent years, allowed the resettlement and employment of thousands of non-Greek immigrants in Southern Cyprus, in addition to the settlers from mainland Greece.

It is, therefore, obvious that the Greek Cypriot side's allegations in this respect are nothing but a propaganda ploy designed to mislead the international community and to create new obstacles in the way of reconciliation in Cyprus. Ultimately, they stand out as yet another proof that the Greek Cypriots lack the interest and political will to settle the Cyprus issue and are rather bent on perpetuating it in order to use it as a political weapon against us.

I shall be grateful if the text of the present letter is circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 54, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Osman ERTUĞ
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus